

British press attack U.S. policy

LONDON (R) — A right-wing British commentator said U.S. objectives in Lebanon could be achieved only by methods unacceptable to the Western conscience. Columnist Perle wrote in the Sunday Telegraph newspaper: "It has to be said, loud and clear, that the Americans' objective in Lebanon is impractical, call it what you will. Their involvement is not neutral. They are there to impose a settlement acceptable to Israel, and this cannot be achieved except by genocidal methods unacceptable to the Western conscience." British newspapers across the political spectrum have become increasingly critical of the U.S. role in Lebanon. The Observer paper said in an editorial: "President Reagan does not understand what the fighting in Lebanon is about."

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز: صحيفة سياسية عربية مستقلة المنشورة من قبل المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية "الراي"

Weinberger starts talks in Peking

PEKING (R) — U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger opened talks Sunday on helping to modernise China's army, but Peking said arms sales would not be at the expense of Chinese independence. Defence Minister Zhang Aiping said in a toast at a welcoming banquet in the Great Hall of the People that China was willing to cooperate with friends in building up its nation and army, but it would not align itself with any foreign power. Mr. Weinberger, in response, said he hoped his visit would strengthen the defence link between Washington and Peking but noted that there were differences between the two countries. The issue of Taiwan — to which the U.S. recently supplied new arms and which China considers its sovereign territory — is expected to cause tension during the five-day visit.

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Crown Prince cables good wishes to North Yemen

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, sent a cable of good wishes to President Ali Abdullah Saleh of North Yemen on Yemen's anniversary of the revolution. In his cable, Prince Hassan wished the Yemeni people further progress and success.

Hassan condoles Pakistani president

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Saturday sent a cable of condolences to President Zia Ul Haq of Pakistan on the death of 96 Pakistanis who were among 112 people killed on Friday in a Gulf Air jet crash. The plane, which was on a flight from Karachi to Bahrain, crashed near Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates (UAE). In his cable Prince Hassan expressed his grief to the victims' families.

Five injured in West Bank grenade attack

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli security forces placed parts of the West Bank city of Nablus under curfew Sunday after two Israeli soldiers and three Palestinian residents were injured in a hand grenade attack, an army spokesman said. The army was conducting searches in the city for the attackers who hurled the grenade near the municipality building. No other details on the attack were immediately available.

Numeiri frees all prisoners

KHARTOUM (R) — President Jaafar Numeiri has ordered all inmates of Sudan's jails freed in a continuing campaign to restore strict observance of Islamic Sharia Law. A decree Saturday said the Interior Ministry should free the convicts, including those awaiting execution, as they had been sentenced under a non-Islamic penal code.

Rothmans team wins Cyprus rally

NICOSIA (R) — Scotland's Jimmy McRae and co-driver Ian Grindrod in an Opel team Manta 400 won the Rothmans Cyprus Rally Sunday, 19 minutes ahead of second-placed Cypriot drivers Vahan Terzian and Janis Theophanis in a Mitsubishi 1800 Turbo. In third place was Kenyan champion Mike Kirkland with co-driver Anton Levitan in a Nissan 240 RS, while Gulf champion Saeed Al Hajri with his British co-driver John Spiller was fourth in an Opel team Ascona 400. McRae finished the course in 792 minutes.

British soprano Isobel Baillie dies

MANCHESTER, England (R) — British soprano Isobel Baillie has died in a Manchester hospital. She was 88. Dame Isobel, regarded by music critics as one of the finest oratorio singers of the 20th century, died Saturday after an illness lasting several weeks. Her friend and biographer Brian Crisp said.

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Fighting rages in Beirut despite possible ceasefire

BEIRUT (R) — Fighting was raging around Beirut Sunday night more than an hour after the time at which Lebanese officials said a ceasefire would come into effect.

Shells still crashed into the hills to the southeast of the city and bright orange flares lit up the sky south of the airport. U.S. Marines were also coming under heavy mortar and shell fire at Beirut Airport and a spokesman said one Marine had been wounded by shrapnel. The U.S. forces were on maximum state of alert, sheltering in bunkers, he said.

According to Lebanese officials U.S. special envoy Robert McFarlane told President Amin Gemayel that a ceasefire would go into effect at 7:30 p.m. (1730 GMT).

In New York U.S. National Security Adviser William Clark confirmed this was the time set for the ceasefire.

The Lebanese officials said Mr. McFarlane had told Mr. Gemayel that Saudi mediator Prince Bandar Ibn Sultan would announce the agreement in Damascus.

Intense artillery exchanges were also going on in the hills overlooking the capital, apparently between the Lebanese army and Syrian-backed anti-government forces.

The boom and flash of artillery, heard and seen from central Beirut, was as intense as it had been in recent weeks. A Marine spokesman told Reuters by telephone that at least two shells hit the beach used for unloading supplies from naval vessels offshore, about 100 metres from a runway at Beirut Airport.

More shells landed later on the tarmac 100 metres from a major Marine position close to the airport terminal, wounding the one Marine, the spokesman said.

He said many of the shells were flying over the Marines' positions towards a Lebanese army garrison and he could not say for sure that the U.S. forces were being aimed at.

The shells were being fired from the east, the spokesman said without being more specific.

Syrian-backed militias have artillery batteries, mortars and rocket-launchers in the mountains east of the airport.

Shells were later reported crashing into suburbs north of Beirut. Residents in the suburb of Babda, site of the Presidential Palace, said earlier six or seven shells had fallen there after the supposed time for a ceasefire and the hills above were also under constant bombardment.

The fighting erupted at 6:30 p.m. (1630 GMT), just as Mr. McFarlane, accompanied by his aide Richard Fairbanks, arrived at the palace, eyewitnesses said.

A Lebanese official said: "Mr. McFarlane visited the president at 6:30 p.m. (1630 GMT) and informed him that agreement had been reached for a ceasefire at 7:30 p.m. (1730 GMT)."

Mr. McFarlane said the announcement would be made by Prince Bandar in Damascus."

Officials gave no further details and it was not immediately clear how the last obstacles to the long-awaited ceasefire agreement had been overcome.

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Health care meeting to begin here today

AMMAN (J.T.) — A meeting on the uses of medicine in health care treatment will open in Amman Monday. The meeting, which is to be attended by 11 Arab and foreign countries, will discuss the availability of medicine, in local markets, and the training of personnel that handle the sale of medicine.

Several working papers are to be submitted to the meeting including one from Jordan covering the country's experience in this field.

Taking part in the meeting which is expected to be opened by Health Minister Zuhair Malhas, are delegates representing North and South Yemen, Egypt, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Cyprus, Afghanistan and Jordan.

Medical body formed to aid Druze militia

AMMAN (J.T.) — A committee has been formed to organise the dispatching of a medical team and medical supplies to the Druze militia in Lebanon, according to a report in Al Ra'i newspaper Sunday.

several Palestinian notables including the deported mayor of Hebron, Fahd Al Qawasni, and Dr. Khreis.

The formation of the committee came in response to a request by PLO leader Yasser Arafat, contained in a circular to all PLO offices, the paper said. It added that all medical supplies will be dispatched from Jordan to Tripoli in northern Lebanon so as to be distributed under the supervision of Mr. Arafat.

U.N. conference slated

AMMAN (J.T.) — A conference on the development of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) health services for Palestinian refugees will begin on Sept. 27 at UNRWA's headquarters in Amman.

The two-day conference is to be attended by the divisional heads of UNRWA's health department from the agency's headquarters in

Vienna. The meeting, which will discuss a number of subjects, will be opened by the World Health Organisation's regional director for the east Mediterranean region, Hussein Gessairi.

Dr. Gessairi and UNRWA's director of health in Vienna are expected to arrive in Amman Monday.

Majali meets delegates

AMMAN (Petra) — University of Jordan President Abdul Salam Al Majali met Sunday delegates taking part in the regional symposium on developing mental health programme in the eastern Mediterranean region and the Middle East.

Dr. Majali briefed the delegates on the university's role in serving scientific investigation in educational fields and the training of

medical personnel. Dr. Majali also expressed the university's interest in holding various scientific seminars and conferences in the future to facilitate the exchange of expertise with other countries. The delegates who were also briefed by Dr. Majali on the development and future plans of the university later visited the University of Jordan Hospital.

The meeting, which will discuss a number of subjects, will be opened by the World Health Organisation's regional director for the east Mediterranean region, Hussein Gessairi.

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Her Royal Highness Princess Basma views the exhibits at a show of handicrafts at the Social Development Centre in Hai Nazzal (Petra photo)

Exhibition highlights traditional handiwork of Hai Nazzal women

By Salameh Ne'matt
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Her Royal Highness Princess Basma, Saturday inaugurated an exhibition of handicrafts staged at the Social Development Centre in Hai Nazzal by the women of the co-operative society there.

The exhibition, which includes over 200 pieces of embroidery, garments, bed sheets, covers, straw baskets, table covers, hand-made belts and head dresses, were all sewn hand by members of Hai Nazzal community who exhibit their works twice a year.

The exhibition will run until Oct. 1 and proceeds from the fair will go to the families of the 63 women of the co-operative society who were active in producing the items and organising the fair, Ms. Firyal Saleh, director of the centre told the Jordan Times.

"The Social Development Centre" she said, "plays an important role in developing the society and

pays special care and attention to children — providing them with proper living conditions and healthy surroundings".

Planning handicraft fairs such as this one, is becoming an important side of the Ministry of Social Development's activities, and is the key to preserving what is left of our traditional handicraft skills and encouraging women with those skills to continue production.

Items on show at the exhibition makes you feel good knowing that there are still women in Jordan who can use their hands and produce such magnificent pieces of art, she said.

The centre was established in 1977 and in 1980 the co-operative society was founded. The centre has a children's library attached and kindergarten run by students from the social development college at the University of Jordan.

Also attending the inauguration of the fair were Mrs. In'am Al Mufi, the minister of Social Development, Dr. Sari Nasser, president of the board of directors of the social development centre, two representatives from the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) and members of the Hai Nazzal community.

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For further information please contact Tel. 22161 until 12:00 noon and 671509 from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Engineers conference opens

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan the Regent opened at the Professional Association Complex Sunday the first Jordanian Engineers Conference held under the slogan "The Role of Engineers in Development".

In a speech to the delegates, Prince Hassan said that the conference is to be regarded as another step towards transforming Jordan into a leading nation in the area with a well-developed economic structure. "Over the past decade, Jordan's economic growth progressed at the annual rate of eight per cent and the per capita income rose to JD 700," Prince Hassan said.

He reviewed the country's achievements in education, pointing out that one third of the population in Jordan are students. "These students are acquiring learning at the country's three universities, schools, community colleges, in addition to 60,000 students studying abroad of whom 16,000 are studying engineering," he said.

"Half of Jordan's 10,000 engineers are now employed in other Arab states and are contributing towards building up the economies of these countries," Prince

Hassan pointed out.

However, it is noticed that the country has a surplus of certain engineering specialisations and a shortage in others; and this requires a modification of the country's educational policies both in quality and quantity", Prince Hassan observed.

He said: "It is your duty, since you know the local market's needs for engineering skills, to cooperate with universities in drawing up training courses in fields that best meet the country's needs."

Prince Hassan said that shortages in certain specialisations have prompted the country to invite foreign firms to work here and to allow local companies to enter into joint ventures with them with the aim of gaining experience for the Jordanian engineers.

"We want to have training programmes for Jordanians in the specialisations that are most needed by the community, and we can start by drawing up programmes

for students at the secondary stage of schooling who should be guided towards meeting the country's needs," Prince Hassan stressed. The country also faces an imbalance in management skills, which are essential elements to a successful development process, he added.

Prince Hassan listed the following specialisations that are most needed by the country: City and rural development planning engineers, communications engineering, design engineering and construction of dams, engineering, economics, project management and traffic engineering.

He said that "in the light of the country's development needs and the human resources available to us, we ought to be working towards developing the national economy and establishing Jordan as an advanced technological centre."

(FAO). In a speech to the delegates, Agriculture Under-Secretary Salem Al Lawzi called on Arab states over looking the Red Sea to exert all possible efforts to develop their fishing industry and to conduct economic and biological studies to achieve this end.



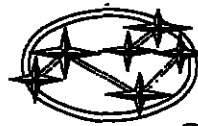
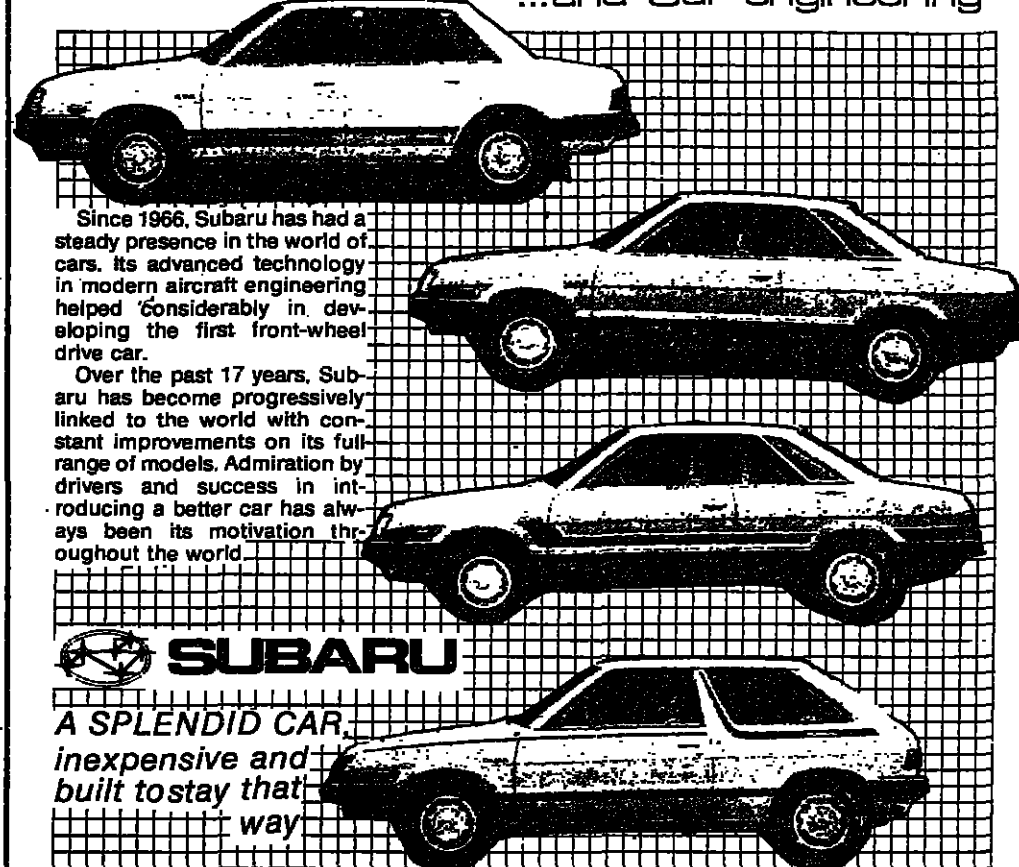
Fishing sector discussed

AMMAN (Petra) — A 10-day regional training course on fisheries and the development of the fishing industries in the Red Sea opened in Amman Sunday. The course has been organised by the Jordan Cooperative Organisation in cooperation with the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organisation

(FAO).

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Senior Editor: **RAMI G. KHOURI**

Editorial and advertising offices: **Jordan Press Foundation**

University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan

Telephone: 666220, 666265 Telex: 21897 ALRAJ TO

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Big, dumb guns

THE increasing concern of many Americans that the American military involvement in Lebanon looks more and more like the first stages of the American involvement in Vietnam deserves to be taken seriously. It is easy to draw parallels between the two situations, particularly after last week's statements by United States President Ronald Reagan and Secretary of State George Shultz accusing Moscow of being behind the troubles in Lebanon. It's easy for American leaders to explain away the Lebanese war as another example of Soviet mischief-making. It's easy, but it's dumb, and if the United States is going to rely on a combination of dumbness in Washington and the (measure 'em, friends) 16-inch guns of the American battleship the New Jersey, then the United States Congress should hire a contractor this month to start building an impressive monument in central Washington, D.C. that would be used in the future to commemorate the American soldiers who shall have died in Lebanon, just as an impressive monument in Washington, D.C. remembers the Americans who died in Vietnam.

It appears that, in Lebanon as in Vietnam, American political leaders at the highest level are confusing a display of military force with an ability to tackle the fundamental problems that gave rise to the local conflict in the first place. Mr. Reagan confuses his own machismo with the precise role that the United States could play to help bring peace to Lebanon. To send in the big (measure 'em, friends) 16-inch guns of the New Jersey and accuse the Russians of stirring up trouble in Lebanon is not the way to peace — rather, it is symptomatic of the problems of Lebanon and the wider Middle East, of the American penchant during the past several decades to rely on Israeli force and an anti-Soviet mania to reduce the region to its present state of incoherence and warfare.

There is a role for the United States in Lebanon and in the Middle East, and we very much would like to see America play that role — the role of the rational, ethical superpower, the role of the even-handed mediator, the role of the outsider who calls for a logical Lebanon based on power-sharing and equality, the role of the humane peace-maker. When will America play the role it is capable of playing in the Middle East? After several thousand American soldiers are killed in Lebanon?

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Europeans must go further

U.S. POLICIES towards Lebanon and the whole Middle East region have given rise to misgivings and doubts in the minds of America's European allies. These allies have embarked on contacts with the American administration to clarify these policies and have begun contacts with the Arab League, the United Nations and other parties to explain their positions with regard to the present position in Lebanon. These allies are probably trying to wash their hands of America's policies and intentions. This is not surprising since Washington has lost credibility in handling the Lebanese issue as it did previously with the Palestine problem.

The Europeans should not be satisfied with simply questioning American intentions in Lebanon but should insist on safeguarding the unity and territorial integrity of Lebanon, so as to foil Washington's attempts to partition the country. There are indications that Washington is about to take this step in view of the massing of naval forces off the Lebanese coast. If the Europeans fail to play a positive role in this respect, they will be viewed as tools in the hands of the United States helping it to achieve its goals and objectives.

Al Dustour: King urges Malaysian support

HIS MAJESTY King Hussein does not miss a chance to present the Arab view to the world with regard to the Palestine question and Middle East issues in general. At a dinner given in his honour in Kuala Lumpur King Hussein did not fail to point out the dangers inherent in these issues and the threat to Arabs and Muslims represented in the continued Israeli occupation of Jerusalem and the rest of the Arab land of Palestine. King Hussein said that the holy places, including Al Aqsa Mosque, are dear to the Arabs and Muslims everywhere, and therefore they should mobilise all their resources and step up their efforts to regain them.

The King spoke of Israel's arbitrary measures against the Arab population and its drive to Judaise the holy places and to evict their indigenous inhabitants. He said that Israel was encouraged to carry out its measures and pursue its establishment of settlements on Arab territory by the present fighting among Muslims and the internal differences plaguing the Arab and Muslim worlds. King Hussein was addressing the Muslim people of Malaysia stressing the fact that Al Aqsa Mosque is of special importance for Muslims everywhere and encouraging them to shoulder their responsibilities towards the holy places.

Sawt Al Shaab: Reconciliation only way

U.S. SUPPORT for the Lebanese army cannot continue for ever because the current no-war no-peace situation in Lebanon cannot last indefinitely. Sooner or later the U.S. will take one of two positions: Either to give up support for and military assistance to the Beirut government and army and leave the battlefield to be decided by the combatants with the possible consequence of partition; or it will allow itself to be drawn further into the quagmire. Either way the Lebanese people stand to lose because neither the current situation nor an escalation of the fighting will end the dispute.

One cannot take it for granted that the situation in Lebanon will remain unchanged. The country is like quick-sand and one cannot predict the next moves of the powers that influence the fighting in the country. The situation in Lebanon rather depends on the interests of the bigger powers which stand behind the combatants. The only possible way of ending the conflict, however, is through a national reconciliation that would end the differences and safeguard the interests of all factions that are presently massacring one another. If this is not achieved soon, Lebanon will end up losing everything, its people and peace, stability and independence.

DE FACTONOMICS

Demography may determine occupied areas' future

By T.A. Jaber

WHILE MOST of the Arabs are currently overwhelmed by the increasingly complex situation in Lebanon, the future of the occupied West Bank, including Jerusalem and Gaza is constantly under consideration by others in the light of the outcome of peace initiatives, changing political situations and Israel's settlement colonial measures. Here are a few examples:

The well-known newspaper, *Christian Science Monitor* published last month a five-part series under the title: "Israel and the West Bank: What Price Occupation?"

The Foreign Policy periodical published last spring an article entitled "Red Light, West Bank".

The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) will have before its board meeting next week a report entitled: "Palestine: Options for Development".

A piece of news appeared in American newspapers last month on a tentative proposal to allow for the immigration of 50,000 Palestinians from Lebanon to the United States.

In all these reports and similar current publications, a number of scenarios are drawn for the future of the occupied Arab areas. At one extreme, is the third Drobles Zionist plan to establish another 57 Israeli colonies in the West Bank and to induce massive Jewish immigration to these colonies. This

will bring the total number of colonies in the West Bank only to 165 by 1987, excluding military sites, and aims at raising the number of Jewish settlers from 50,000 to 1.3 million by the year 2010.

In contrast, the UNCTAD report outlines a plan for developing the West Bank and Gaza as an independent Palestinian state to offer housing and other needed facilities for its Arab residents at an average return of 145,000 Palestinians from abroad annually.

Many other in-between options are still being considered. In all of these options, demographic factors appear to be a common denominator. Regardless of the political outcome, the following dem-

ographic developments should be recognised whatever one's inclination may be:

1. The Arab population in the occupied territories grows at a natural rate of over 3.5 per cent, much higher than that of the Israelis. However, Israel has so far faced this factor by the outflow of an average 20,000 Arabs annually. Such an outflow will not be expected to remain at the same scale in the future due to measures Jordan has adopted and declining job opportunities in the Gulf. Accordingly, the Arab population in the occupied areas will increase from 1.4 million in 1985 to about two million in early 1991's.

2. Jewish immigration to Israel has been decreasing in the

last decade while emigration is going up. On the other hand, the incentives given to the Israelis to move to the settlements did not at all match the desired objectives.

3. If the Palestinians under Israeli occupation will increase noticeably in number, and the Israeli settlements' population will continue to be marginal, increasing pressures will evolve on the Israelis to provide adequate employment and social services to the people under occupation. The issue of self-determination will not satisfy economic needs and will thus lead to eruptions. Israel cannot also continue to get away with its legislative and judicial double standards in the occupied areas to the dis-

advantage of the Arabs.

While demographic evolution seems to be more favourable to the Palestinian cause, such a process should not be taken for granted. Changes can be influenced in one way or another. Jordan stands to play a significant role in the way things will develop.

Our objectives should include the following: To have more Palestinians remain in the occupied areas, to assist them directly and indirectly to help them maintain adequate living conditions, to uncover Israeli discriminatory practices against our people under occupation, and to strengthen their institutions, local and national ones.

Peace after Khomeini, Iraqis said to believe

By Subhy Haddad

Reuter

BAGHDAD — Iraq has vowed to continue the Gulf war if it has to but believes peace will come after the death of Iran's Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

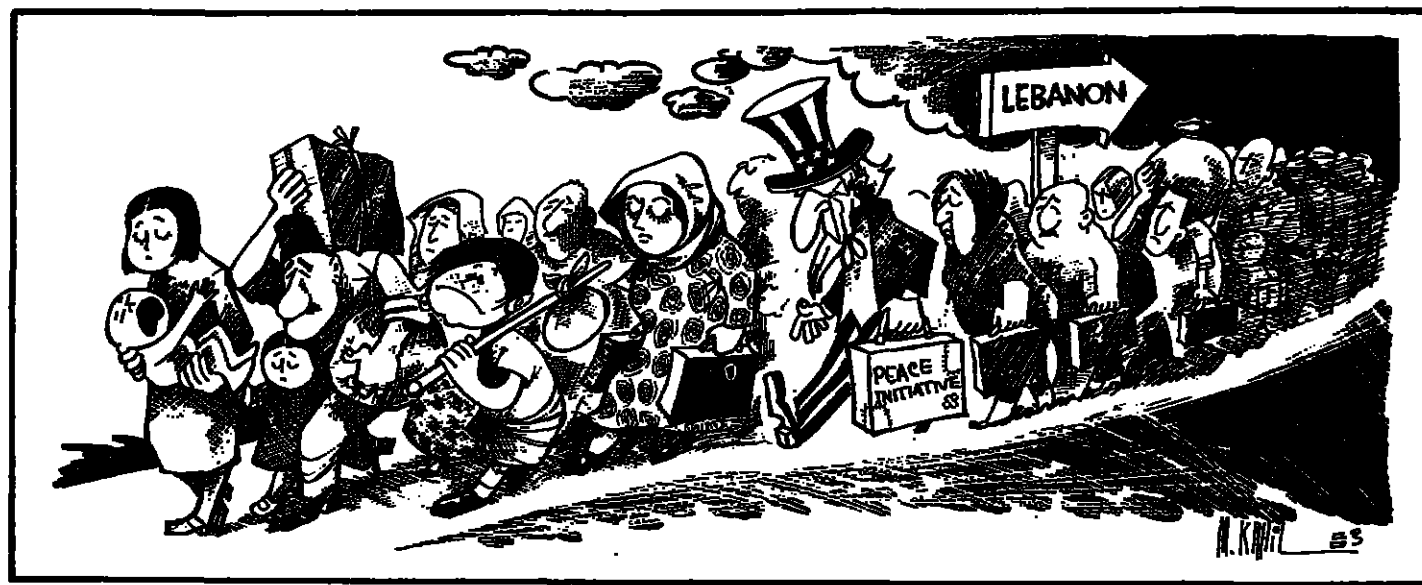
Iraqi officials said the Iranian leader, in his mid-80s, saw the war as a personal struggle between himself and Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

"The clergymen who will replace Khomeini will surely try to initiate him for some time, but we have certain information that some of them are against the war and will strive to end it quickly," an Iraqi government official said. Iraq's repeated calls for an end to the three-year-old war, which Western diplomats in Baghdad say is costing it about \$1 billion a month, have gone unheard.

Defence Minister Adnan Kheirallah said this month Iraq would fight until the end of the century unless a just solution to the conflict was reached.

Iraq's terms for a "just solution" are understood to include an end to the state of war, the establishment of neighbourly relations and non-interference in the affairs of each other's country.

Others are realisation of border demarcations under terms of a



1975-treaty signed by President Hussein and the late Shah of Iran, including along the Shatt Al-Arab waterway at the head of the Gulf, and free navigation for both countries in the waterway.

A government official told Reuters that Iraq remained ready to accept arbitration by the United Nations, the 111-member Non-Aligned Movement, the Organisation of Islamic Conference or any other international body accepted by both sides.

The war threatens to take on a new dimension if France goes ahead with reported plans to deliver Iraq five French Super Etendard fighter-bombers armed with Exocet missiles.

Iraq has said it is prepared to use the Exocets to strike vital Ira-

nian targets. Iran has said it will close the Gulf, through which most Middle East oil passes, if its oil installations are attacked.

Asked if the planes would be used to attack Iran's Kharg Island oil export terminal, the Iraqi official said: "We will decide how to use them when we receive them."

While Iran has been able to finance much of its war effort through oil sales, Iraq is suffering economic difficulties because of the closure of its oil export outlets in the Gulf soon after the conflict started.

The situation worsened in April 1982 when Syria, an ideological foe of Iraq which supports Iran in the war, closed a pipeline carrying Iraqi oil across its territory to the Mediterranean.

Iraq now exports 700,000 barrels of oil a day, about a fifth of its pre-war level, through a 1,000-kilometre pipeline from Kirkuk, northern Iraq, to the Turkish port of Ceyhan.

Iraq and Turkey, which buys a fifth of the oil, agreed this year to expand the pipeline's capacity to one million barrels.

They also increased security around the pipeline in areas inhabited by Kurdish rebels hostile to both governments.

Among steps being taken by Iraq to boost oil exports is the construction of a 1,230 kilometre pipeline to the Saudi Red Sea port of Yanbu. The \$2 billion project is expected to be funded by Saudi Arabia and ready in two years.

To help make up cash shortfalls caused by the decline in oil exp-

orts, other Gulf countries, especially Saudi Arabia, are reported to have granted Iraq a total of about \$20 billion in credits during the first two years of the war.

But Iraqi officials said the level of this assistance had fallen sharply in 1983.

The Iraqi economy is still strong and stable and was not shaken by the war. As for our debts, most of them come from our Gulf and Saudi brothers, hence we do not feel too worried about paying them back in a pressurised period like this."

Iraq has an estimated one million troops and over 100,000 members of its 500,000-strong Popular Army, a reserve militia force, tied up along the 1,200 kilometre border with Iran.

Contras bound to receive new 'freedom bombers' from allies

By Bernd Debusmann

Reuter

MEXICO CITY — An air attack on Nicaragua's capital has spotlighted moves to tighten military cooperation between anti-Communist forces in turbulent Central America.

According to diplomatic and insurgent sources in Costa Rica, the Salvadorean Air Force provided the bombs used in the air attack on Managua on Sept. 8, the first since the end of the Nicaraguan civil war in 1979.

The two twin-engine aircraft used in the attack, these sources said, were fitted with 500-pound bombs of U.S. manufacture at El Salvador's main military airport of Ilopango between Sept. 2 and 7. Piloted by Nicaraguan insurgents, one aircraft raided Managua's airport before crashing in flames against the control tower of the adjacent international airport and the second plane dropped a bomb near the residence of Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto.

The use of El Salvador as a staging point in the air attack was the first major reported incident of direct Salvadorean involvement in guerrilla campaigns against Nicaragua.

The attack came against the background of efforts by the United States, the dominant power in Central America, to forge a military alliance among Washington's friends in the region.

A day after the insurgent planes struck, U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger wound up a tour of three Central American states with a call for tighter military cooperation to fight left-wing revolution.

In the weeks before Mr. Weinberger's visit, the first by a U.S. defence secretary to Central America, the defence chiefs of Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras all favoured reactivating the dormant Central American Defence Council (CONDECA).

CONDECA was formed in

1965 by El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala and Nicaragua, then a right-wing dictatorship allied to Washington. The four-nation military pact ceased functioning after two of its members — El Salvador and Honduras — fought a brief border war in 1969.

A strong, anti-Communist security alliance in Central America was one of the topics Mr. Weinberger discussed with Salvadorean and Honduran officials during his visit. Gen. Paul Gorman, chief of the Panama-based U.S. Southern Command, said at the time a reactivated CONDECA would receive "the strong support of the United States."

Diplomats said it remained to be seen whether the use of Salvadorean territory and arms in the Managua attack foreshadowed similar coordinated operations against the Sandinists, already the target of considerable military pressure.

"For the U.S., it would be a logical step to encourage El Salvador to take such action," said a Latin American diplomat based in Central America. "After all, both Washington and the Salvadoreans insist that the Sandinists are arming the guerrillas in El Salvador."

The aircraft flew into Ilopango, a tightly-guarded complex just outside El Salvador's capital, from Costa Rica where the anti-Sandinist insurgent group that mounted the raid has its headquarters.

Although Costa Rica's Minister for Public Security, Angel Edmundo Solano, confirmed the planes had left for Ilopango, a Defence Ministry spokesman in El Salvador said reports of the base's use as a staging point were attempts by the extreme left to blacken the government.

The Revolutionary Democratic Alliance (ARDE), which sent the aircraft to raid Managua, has forecast more air strikes on Nicaragua soon.

"Today, there are three, four planes and tomorrow there will be eight or twelve, and the next day there will be fleets," said former

Nicaraguan Deputy Defence Minister Eden Pastora. ARDE's military commander.

Frequent air strikes on Nicaragua would add a new dimension to the guerrilla war waged by ARDE from bases in Costa Rica and by the larger Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN) from camps along the border between Honduras and Nicaragua.

Pastora, who defected from the Sandinists in 1981, gave no details on the origin of the additional aircraft he said ARDE was expecting.

Unlike the FDN, ARDE has consistently denied receiving arms and money from the United States Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), whose covert support for the FDN has sparked heated debates in the United States.

Less than three months ago, Pastora said his group had run out of guns and bullets and was temporarily halting its operations. A few days later he announced that ARDE was resuming the fight, and since then ARDE has received a steady supply of equipment, including the Cessna 404 used in the Managua raid.

Its route via El Salvador gave rise to speculation in Central America that ARDE was switching its supply lines because it faced difficulties from the government of Costa Rica.

One of the world's few countries without an army, Costa Rica professes strict neutrality in the bloody conflicts of Central America and apparently fears that ARDE could drag the country into the guerrilla wars against Nicaragua.

As a result, the Costa Rican authorities have seized several shipments of weapons, arrested rank-and-file members of ARDE, and told the leadership there were limits to Costa Rica's tolerance of exile activities.

But the Costa Ricans clearly expect trouble in the future. A week after the air strike, the Ministry of Public Security said it was hoping to buy heat-seeking missiles to beef up its air defence.

Racism rising in Western Europe with unemployment

HOWEVER said it may be that a far-right, racist party should get 17 per cent of the vote in a French municipal election, it is not surprising. The National Front's success in Dreux this month reflects a Europe-wide resentment against immigrants that has intensified as Europe-wide unemployment has risen.

In their colonial days the French often seemed more sympathetic to black Africans than the British or the Dutch, but they have never much loved Arabs, as their war in Algeria showed. As it happened, most of the immigrants into France during the 1960s and early 1970s were Arabs. Besides, the extreme right in France has often been unusually virulent. France had its own uniformed fascists in the 1930s, and under German occupation some publications, and some officials too, showed they had nothing to learn from the Nazis.

Today, Arabs are the main target in France, just as Turks are in West Germany and West Indians and Asians are in Britain. And in France, as elsewhere, the natives do not distinguish between foreign immigrants and their locally born children. Nor indeed do the immigrant communities: all over the world, even in the United States, where the creation of a "melting pot" has been public policy, minorities have tried to preserve their own culture and separatism.

That is natural. But to hope to remain apart yet not to be resented is naive. As the immigrant communities grew and the economy stopped doing so during the 1970s, every European country with significant foreign minorities had to face tensions previously masked by prosperity.

Bribes did not work

The response of most governments was twofold. They sharply curbed immigration and, in some instances, tried to reduce the numbers already present. Switzerland used the simple device of not renewing work permits. France

offered immigrants a large bribe to go home — only to find that two thirds of the 90,000 who took it were Portuguese or Spanish. West Germany, too, now under a centre-right government, has adopted a policy of bribes that looks unlikely to entice many foreigners to leave. Britain has limited its effort to ineffective but often unpleasant attempts to catch and deport illegal immigrants. At the same time, most governments have tried to do a bit to integrate the immigrants with their host society.

By and large, these policies have been followed whatever party was in power. The left has been more liberal, the right less so, but the differences have been far smaller than appeared from the acrimonious political arguments. France has been fairly typical. The presidency of Mr. Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, in 1974-81, saw a progressive tightening up on immigration and on work permits. The Mitterrand government put this into reverse, and allowed 130,000 illegal immigrants to become legal. But in 1982, and again this autumn, it took fresh measures against illegal immigrants while promising more help with housing and education. The story in Britain was much the same.

Such twin-pronged policies can only scratch at the problem, yet scratching may be the only eternally acceptable policy. Racism is not, as the black phrase has it, a white problem. It is a human one, springing from deep roots. It took the election of an openly racist members of parliament last year to make the oh-so-rational Dutch admit to themselves the attitudes that led to it. Yet the oddity of that event, or of Dreux, or of other modest successes of the extreme right is not that they happen but that they do not happen more often. In West Germany, the neo-Nazi National Democratic party got only 0.2 per cent of the vote in the March general election, despite the wave of anti-Turkish sentiment. — The Economist

There must be some way to Lebanese reconciliation

By Salameh B. Ne'matt

IT IS an ugly and sinking war. Last summer, blood and violence swept over Beirut, but then people used to look at each other, face to face, and yet they used to feel that they were in the same bunker together against the Israeli war machine. They were not Maronites, Druze, Shi'ites or Armenians — they were citizens of the besieged Beirut, and their presence inside the bombed city gave them one identity and a feeling of belonging.

Today, there is none of that: Beirut and Lebanon are turned inside out — no more solidarity or co-existence, for they are replaced by discrimination, enmity and self-indulgence. Those who were reasonable and sage yesterday, who used to like reading, chanting, music or sitting playing backgammon or chess: those turned into killers and slaughterers, not for any reason but because the other person belonged to another faction.

Most Lebanese haven't killed anybody, and many of them would not allow themselves to slaughter a chicken, but in each faction, there are people who have lost control over their civility, culture or moral and let the barbaric side of their nature take over.

The war in the mountain broke apart people who were living together for centuries. Christians whose houses were burnt, might not come back to their villages, and the two mountains around the capital became one Druze and the other Christian, which beyond any doubt warns of a completely different Lebanese "republic," not the one we used to know.

As it is in the mountain, so it is in Beirut: for Beirut is not Beirut any more, and if you search the streets for that genius that used to live there, you will be wasting your time. The magician has evaporated with his magic, and since the city has determined to divorce herself, then the faces of violence, war, death and fear will be seen stark naked as they are — ugly and stinky.

Currently, while the Americans and Syrians are getting more and more involved, Palestinians back in the battlefield and Shout in the hands of Druze; many people are beginning to believe that the only solution is partition, whether it is a partition of authority or of Lebanon. But the question that imposes itself now is how to divide authority between people who have lost confidence in each other for a long time.

From Laos to Chad, modern history has given us examples of attempts in that direction that have all failed. A partition of Lebanon is nothing but encouraging factionalism, not forgetting that economic necessity nowadays imposes upon the world the need to be organised in big groups. Is it not insufferable to hang on to a worn-out structure in a country with strong factionalism and a weak government?

Only a confederation such as that in Canada, Yugoslavia or Nigeria providing a multi-form authority distributed among the different factions might work.

Confederation is what made Switzerland after all. I am afraid that Lebanon is blowing her chances to the wind. She, who considered herself the Switzerland of the Middle East. But being neutral here is not enough to achieve national Lebanese peace, but adopting a new political structure that respects all parties and factions could pave the way to it.

British film production is booming

By Leslie Dowd

LONDON — Film production is booming in Britain, where an artistic resurgence has coincided with a trend towards using the country as a workshop in which to make international cinema blockbusters like *Return of the Jedi*.

Some \$400 million are currently invested in making over 50 films — the bulk of the money from the United States — and British film studios are approaching full bookings for the first time since the golden film years of the 1950s.

Nearly four in five of the country's 7,000 film technicians are working, according to film industry chiefs. The figure fell as low as one in five during the lean years since the 1950s.

The main reason is that many of the big budget money-spinners filling world cinemas are shot in Britain, which offers low costs and an abundance of talent and skill in the special effects that are a key ingredient of modern mass-appeal films.

Few cinemagoers realise that when they watch *Superman* zoom over the rooftops of skyscrapers they are actually being models and special effects created in Britain,

where all three movies featuring the American comic strip hero were shot.

When actor Harrison Ford confronted masses of writhing snakes in *Raiders of the Lost Ark* he did so not in any jungle but on a set at Elstree, one of Britain's big three studios, where a sequel to the film is now in production.

At Pinewood, Europe's biggest film studio, a beautiful blonde-haired girl could recently be seen soaring above lush English countryside, causing carefully stage-managed consternation in a bustling American High Street spread below.

An intricate set had been mocked up over a 10-acre (four-hectare) plot to shoot the \$25 million *Supergirl*, due for release next year. She flies with the help of a giant crane.

Shepperton, the third big studio, was faced with possible closure some years ago but is now also doing well.

The special effects trailblazer *Star Wars* was made in Britain as were the *Empire Strikes Back* and *Jedi*, now bidding to knock *E.T.*, last year's film about a loveable extra-terrestrial being, off its perch as the cinema's biggest



Sir Richard Attenborough

money earner.

All the James Bond films were made in Britain and so were many films, such as *The Shining*, which have nothing to stump them as in any way British-made.

Britain's reputation is not limited to feature films. British television is well regarded round the world and even its advertising commercials are seen as in the front rank.

In the acclaimed low-budget film *The Ploughman's Lunch* actor Frank Finlay, playing a producer of commercials, is made to



David Putnam

remark: "We might have led the world once into the industrial revolution — now we lead with television commercials."

"We're the best: It's as simple as that. Even the Americans will admit it now. The camerawork, the acting, scripts, special effects — we've got the lot."

Allowance must be made for hyperbole but experts in the industry do list professional skills

among the reasons why foreigners make films in Britain.

"We do have a number of very talented directors and a lot of very talented actors," according to Derek Malcolm, film critic of the *Guardian* newspaper. Ken Maidment of the film and television Producers Association said: "When it comes to special effects, let's say there's nobody more pre-eminent than we are."

Apart from sharing a common language with North America, the main market for films, Britain has the attraction of being up to 30 per cent cheaper than Hollywood. Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher helped by allowing costs to be set heavily against tax.

Coming after so many hungry years, the boom has engendered pride and cautious optimism but so far little euphoria and no expectations that the days will ever return when Britain made 120 films a year in Hollywood assembly-line style.

Foreign-financed films are welcome but many Britons want to

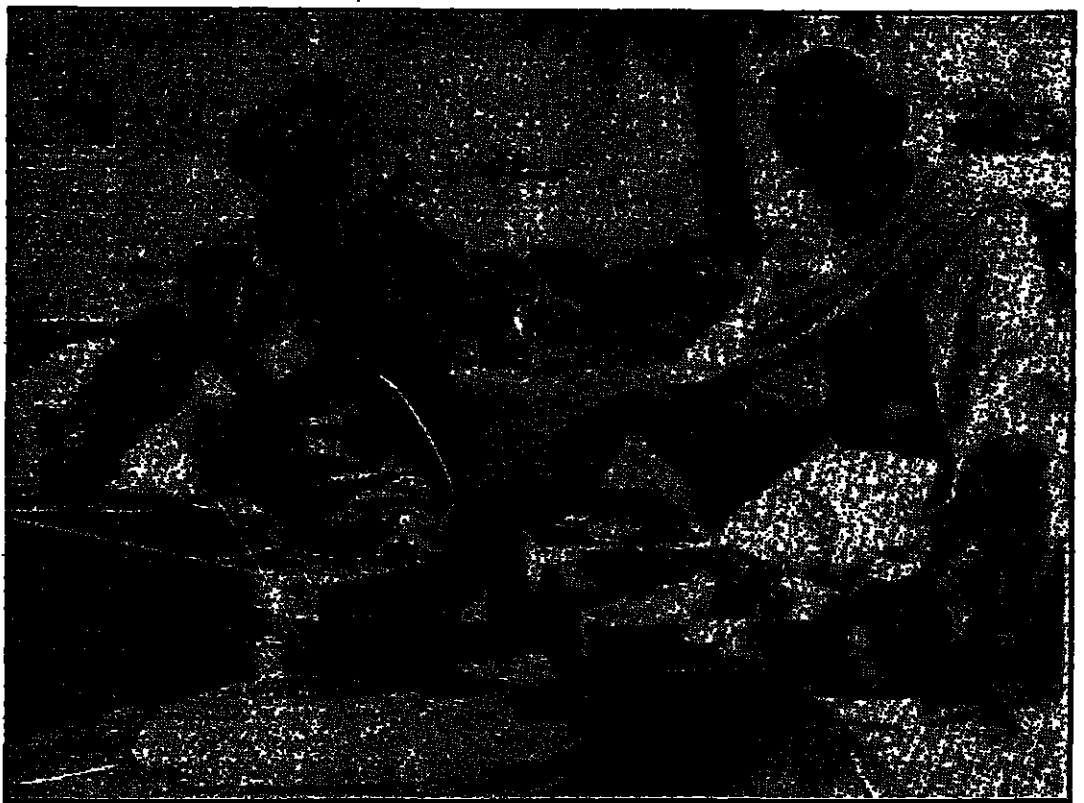
see British investors backing the industry. Alan Sapper of the Technicians Union said that very little of the world profits of the blockbusters found their way back to Britain.

Purely British films have topped the awards for two years running. Sir Richard Attenborough's *Gandhi* scooped eight Hollywood Oscars in April and last year David Putnam's *Chariots of Fire* was best film.

Producers complain that timid British investors are slow to back what is obviously a winning industry, although Goldcrest, which made *Chariots of Fire* and Putnam's more recent *Local Hero*, have plans for 20 more films.

"The revival of the industry from its recent dismal depression is mainly an artistic renaissance," warned the *Times* newspaper.

Pinewood studios made record profits last year but the Rank Organisation owners say they have no plans to return on their own account to major filmmaking, abandoned in 1980.



Candice Bergen and Ben Kingsley in Richard Attenborough's *Gandhi* (file photo).

Extremities: An ordeal for cast and audience

By Robert Basler
Reuter

NEW YORK — Actress Farrah Fawcett says she has grown accustomed to living with aches and bruises. Susan Sarandon endured black eyes and a bloody nose, and during one performance Karen Allen smashed her own kneecap with a hammer.

But at the off-broadway play "Extremities," the cast does not suffer alone. The play is an ordeal for the audience as well, as the stagegoers cope with a relentless emotional barrage that is uncompromising, and for some, unbearable.

Many react with shouts and tears, a few become ill, and surprising number flee the theatre during a graphically-staged rape attempt and the hour of terror that follows.

"People walk towards the stage to leave, or to go to the bathroom to throw up — they're very affected by this," Fawcett, the current *Extremities* star, told Reuters.

And those who do stay find themselves part of what actor James Russo — the play's would-be rapist — describes as a "mental enema," as Fawcett

captures her attacker, cages him in behind a fireplace grating, and tortures him in a quest for the justice which she believes the courts would deny her.

The play's tension, always remarkable, has increased since Fawcett joined the cast in May.

A fan leaped onstage during one performance, halting the play, and since then an armed guard watches the audience.

It seems the play's appeal is as universal as it is jolting. Playwright in Ireland, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Mexico and Australia, and productions are being planned in several other countries. Cinema rights have been sold, and Fawcett says she is interested in playing the lead on screen.

"Extremities" opened last December to mixed reviews, but thanks to some prestigious awards, and also in large part to a series of glamorous stars, it has kept going strong.

The part of Marjorie was played first by "Atlantic City" star Sarandon, then by "Raiders of the Lost Ark" heroine Allen, and now by Fawcett, all of whom doubtless could find more financially rewarding and less torturous roles elsewhere.

in the play through October, says one reason she accepted the role was "to be taken a little more seriously as an actress." She also was drawn to the part because of the power the play has over the audience.

"When you see 'Extremities' you are affected," she says. "I like it that people think whatever their opinions are. They think I'm a jerk, they think I'm a slut. There are emotions being tested in people — they have to think."

Fawcett says that when she took over the role she asked that Marjorie be allowed to fight even more during the rape attempt, a suggestion that was turned down.

"The director kept saying it would look like a fight, not like a rape," she remembers.

At the point in the play when Marjorie the victim becomes Marjorie the captor, exhilarated viewers greet the turnabout with shouts of "kill him". Soon their words begin to haunt them, as they realise she may do just that.

"When you're pushed into a corner and you're dealing with an animal like I think he is, the only way to get what you want is to get down to his level," Fawcett says of her role.

rapist who repulsed audiences for eight months until he left the play this month to take a film part, endured excruciating back pain from spending long periods in a foetal position in his tiny fireplace prison.

He says he broke three ribs in the course of the play, and respects the dangers the fight scene poses for the actress. "One false move and you get a fist in your mouth," he says.

Mastrosimone, who is also doing the movie screenplay, wrote *Extremities* in 1978, while working as a clerk in a New Jersey liquor store. He says a customer whom he knew only slightly was raped, and she told him her story a day later.

"She was humiliated," he said. "She was 55 years old, she quit her job, lost her pension, sold her possessions, and moved west. She wouldn't even give me her address."

One part of the woman's story riveted Mastrosimone. "She told me there was one moment during the rape when the rapist left himself open to hurt," he says. "He reached for something and she could have kicked him, but she was afraid."



Farrah Fawcett

Extremities about a woman who was not afraid to take advantage of such a moment.

Extremities productions on the road to New York led to angry confrontations, and at one theatre actual fights, as patrons debate whether the punishment was too great or too little. There were also arguments about Marjorie's roommates, who begin on her side but later turn against her, leaving this victim alone with her nightmares.

Mastrosimone agrees the presence of Fawcett in an already frenzied situation has pushed viewers to a dangerous brink.

"You're sitting two feet (60 cm) away from this goddess," he says. "For some people who live mentally on edge, that can be too much."

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SPORTS

McEnroe throws tantrum but joins Lendl in final

SAN FRANCISCO (R) — Top seed John McEnroe, urged on by boos from the crowd, threw a tantrum and argued with the umpire as he beat South African Kevin Curren 6-7, 6-2, 6-4 Saturday night to reach the final of the \$265,000 Transamerica Open Tennis Championships.

McEnroe, who later complained he felt he was cheated out of the first set, will play Czechoslovakia's Ivan Lendl, the second seed, in the final. Lendl routed India's Ramesh Krishnan 6-0, 6-1 in the other semi-final on Saturday.

McEnroe lost the first set after a row that spilled over into the second set. On the 12th point of the tiebreaker, with Curren ahead, 6-5, the South African hit a forehand that McEnroe and most of the crowd of more than 10,000

thought landed a foot or so beyond the baseline.

But linesman Bill Ruhle said it was good and umpire Frank Hammond agreed, giving Curren the point and the set.

McEnroe exploded and the crowd backed him up with a chorus of boos directed at Hammond. The fiery New Yorker then stalked to his chair, sat down in protest and looked as if he planned to stay put all night.

Hammond first gave him a one-point penalty for a time delay. Then he awarded the first game of the second set to Curren as another time-delay penalty.

Finally, only eight seconds from being disqualified for time-wasting, McEnroe returned to the court to a chorus of cheers.

But the row seemed to give

McEnroe a fresh urge to win. He served three aces on his way to taking the second game of the second set. Then he broke Curren's serve twice in a row and finally closing it out on his own serve with an ace for a 6-2 margin in 28 minutes.

The third set was much like the second, with McEnroe breaking Curren's serve in the opening game and wrapping up the match 35 minutes later.

But the American was still fuming afterwards.

"I got cheated out of the first set," he told reporters. "And Frank Hammond should never have been in the chair for my match."

Earlier, Lendl acted like a man late for an appointment as he bundled out the luckless Krishnan.

Lendl, runnerup to Jimmy Connors in this month's U.S. Open, has earned more than \$3m in prize money over the past 20 months, and his produced an awesome display of power tennis in crushing the Indian.

It took Lendl 23, only 42 minutes to beat Krishnan. He got in 94 per cent of his first serves, including eight aces.

Piquet romps to victory in Brands Hatch race

BRANDS HATCH, England (R) — Brazilian Nelson Piquet completed a commanding victory in the Grand Prix of Europe motor race here on Sunday but the destination of this year's world title remains undecided.

Piquet took his Brabham ahead on the 11th lap of the 76-lap race and remained there to record his second successive World Championship triumph.

But championship leader Alain Prost of France finished second in his Renault and the six points he gained kept him two points ahead of the Brazilian, winner of the 1981 world crown. In the standings.

French duo Rene Arnoux and Patrick Tambay, also in the hunt

before the race, failed to make the top six.

Arnoux finished a lap behind the leaders and his Ferrari teammate Tambay crashed out while in fourth place near the end.

Arnoux has now dropped from second to third overall — eight points behind Prost — but remains with an outside chance of the title at the last race in South Africa next month. Tambay is no longer in the reckoning.

Britain's Nigel Mansell came third in his Lotus. Italian Andrea de Cesaris fourth in his Alfa Romeo and the ever-improving Toleman drivers Derek Warwick of Britain and Bruno Giacomelli of Italy were fifth and sixth respectively.

Tabb, 1st American to win Peking marathon

PEKING (R) — Ronny Allen Tabb Sunday became the first American to win the Peking marathon but failed to break any records in the intense heat.

The temperature hit 30 degrees centigrade (86 fahrenheit) as the runners approached the finishing line and Tabb described the heat as 'terrible'.

His time of two hours 18 minutes 51 seconds was more than nine minutes outside his personal best and more than 10 minutes slower than the world record of compatriot Alberto Salazar.

Tabb, who is only five feet six inches (1.68 metres) tall was unconcerned. "I won and that's all that matters. It was too hot to run fast," he said.

"I feel my chances of making the Olympic team are excellent and I think winning a medal at the Olympics is conceivable," he said. Tabb, 29, winner of the 1983 Sydney marathon, looked a likely victor from the start.

"From the five-km mark I knew I had the race so I just backed off," he said.

Sweden's Kjell Erikstahl, who won the first Peking marathon in 1981, finished second in 2:20.35 despite having to rest for about 30 seconds because of severe stomach pains.

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ECONOMY

Continental Air Lines joins Braniff in bankruptcy court

HOUSTON (R) — The eighth largest U.S. airline, Continental Air Lines, blaming high labour costs, has become the second major Texan carrier to file for bankruptcy in less than eighteen months.

Seventeen months after Dallas-based Braniff International grounded its planes, Continental suspended its domestic flights on Friday, leaving hundreds of passengers stranded and 12,000 staff facing dismissal.

However, unlike Braniff, Continental said it would resume domestic operations quickly.

By Tuesday morning it should be flying again, but only to 25 cities instead of the previous 78.

Chairman Frank Lorenzo told newsmen the airline filed for protection from its creditors under U.S. bankruptcy laws while it re-

structured itself into a cut-rate carrier.

"As a result, we will be the lowest-cost trunk airline in the country," he said.

Since 1978, Continental has lost about \$500 million, including \$84 million in the first half of 1983.

Its total debts stand at about \$650 million.

Continental said its international flights — mainly to Mexico, Venezuela, and the South Pacific — would continue operating under new subsidiary companies.

Mr. Lorenzo stressed that Continental's position was very different from that of Braniff's.

He pointed out it still had \$50 million in cash and securities and would resume operations after just a 48-hour suspension.

Braniff filed for bankruptcy on May 12 last year when it ran out of

cash and its planes remain grounded while it finalises a revival plan.

Mr. Lorenzo, blaming high labour costs for Continental's troubles, said dismissal notices went out to the company's 12,000 employees shortly before it filed for protection from its creditors.

He said the airline would ask the bankruptcy court to terminate its union contracts immediately, after which it would rehire about 35 per cent of the workforce to operate 46 of the airline's 100 planes.

Mr. Lorenzo said staff would have to accept, what he called, emergency work rules by 25 per cent.

"We believe many employees will stay with Continental under the new work rules and lower wages," he said.

Mr. Lorenzo also blamed fierce competition from other cut-price airlines for Continental's problems.

Its rivals include Southwest Airlines, Muse Air and the newcomer People Express, which benefit from lower operating costs.

Muse Air and Southwest Airlines have already announced they will honour tickets issued by Continental.

Mr. Lorenzo, a financier whose Texas air corporation also controls Texas International Airlines and New York Air as well as Houston-based Continental, has faced an uphill battle in making the airline profitable since taking it over in 1981.

Other airlines have said Continental's troubles might scare away passengers, but Mr. Lorenzo has dismissed such claims and predicted people will still travel Continental.

Third World says IMF cutbacks will exacerbate debt woes

WASHINGTON (R) — Developing countries have warned that any cutback in their loans from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) would add new pressures to the world's already critical debt crisis.

In advance of this week's annual meeting of the IMF and World Bank, the so-called Group of 24 developing countries demanded a continuation of the present formula used in calculating IMF loans.

The major industrial countries are pressing for a change but a Group of 24 official told reporters that this "would have a serious and a deleterious effect on the world debt situation."

The United States, the biggest contributor to the international lending agencies, has argued that loans must be rationed because the world recession and other international economic pressures have increased demand for them.

Officials from industrial countries, talking to reporters after separate meetings, said they agreed that access to IMF funds should be reduced but declined to spell out a specific formula.

Member countries can now borrow up to 150 per cent of their quotas, or economic commitments, over three years and under very special circumstances this can be increased to 600 per cent.

The IMF itself is now under financial pressure.

Member countries approved an increase of more than \$40 billion in money for the agency in the spring, but the U.S. Congress has not yet approved the American share of \$8.4 billion.

Treasury Secretary Donald Regan said Saturday he expected that approval would come but admitted that the administration

still had a tough fight on its hands in Congress.

The spokesman for the developing countries declined to say what would happen if the IMF funding package was not approved, but said "we are not worried. We are hopeful."

The Institute of International Finance, a Washington-based body set up by international bankers to try to prevent countries running into foreign debt problems, held its first annual meeting Saturday.

The institute, with more than 100 member banks, aims to monitor the economic performance of borrowing countries so that lending banks can better spot potential warning signals.

It has already established a computer database providing member banks with economic statistics and banking sources said it planned to send missions to borrowing countries similar to those sent routinely by the IMF to member nations to monitor their economies.

They would not make judgments on the creditworthiness of countries, but would help banks to decide whether or not to make loans, the sources said.

They said the institute's third function would be to form study groups on problems facing the banking industry, such as the current slump in new international lending caused by the debt crisis.

For more than a year, bankers involved in international lending have done little but grapple with the loan repayment difficulties of Latin American, Eastern European and some African nations which have amassed debts estimated as high as \$700 billion.

Bankers said the institute would be beneficial because it would attempt to provide some statistics,

especially for short-term debt, which were not now easily available.

Meanwhile, high U.S. interest rates will be a major issue at the annual meeting of the IMF and World Bank.

The rates have eased in recent weeks, but U.S. Federal Reserve (Fed) officials say the decline may soon be at an end.

Whether the tentative recovery in many West European countries takes root and spreads, as the IMF hopes, will depend chiefly on how far U.S. rates fall.

Without that decline, there is virtually no chance that debt-burdened developing nations can inch towards an economic upturn and repay their foreign creditors.

The huge U.S. budget deficit and a surge in the nation's money supply have until recently kept interest rates high.

But even though the Fed has curbed money supply growth, officials say the deficit problem remains.

The Fed acts as the U.S. central bank and is largely independent of the Reagan administration.

When the Fed curbs money supply, interest rates rise. When it allows more growth, they decline.

America's allies complained bitterly for more than two years that high U.S. rates have plunged them into recession. They say this could happen again unless there is further relief.

High U.S. interest rates have boosted the dollar, which in turn has weakened West European currencies and added to the debt burden of the developing nations.

All the European countries feel the brunt of the budget deficit and the overvalued dollar. The United States will do nothing," a senior French diplomat here complained.

Finance ministers of the major industrial countries will review these trends during the IMF meeting. They can expect to hear pleas for relief from France and Italy.

Britain and West Germany are also likely to express their concern to the U.S.

But U.S. Treasury Secretary Donald Regan says the dollar is supported by a healthy economy and not solely by high interest rates which attract foreign investors.

Mr. Regan is likely to try to mollify his colleagues by repeating his view that rates will decline further this year.

Turkey's draft budget lifts spending by 25%

ANKARA (R) — The Turkish government has submitted a draft budget for 1984 which would lift its spending 25 per cent above this year's expected levels to 3,250 billion lira (\$13.4 billion), the finance ministry said.

Economists said the spending rise was in line with an expected 1983 inflation rate of 20 per cent to 25 per cent and was prepared within International Monetary Fund guidelines.

The draft budget was based on a projected 1984 inflation rate of 25 per cent, the ministry said.

The draft called for defence spending of 583 billion lira (\$2.4 billion), 17.9 per cent of national spending, up from the 450 billion lira (\$1.9 billion) predicted for 1983.

The draft will be considered by the budget and plan committee of the Consultative Assembly on Monday and passed to the assembly for debate.

It must be ratified by the ruling National Security Council. The export target for 1984 was set at \$6.8 billion, an increase of 10 per cent on 1983 estimates, while imports were put at \$9.5 billion, up 4.5 per cent.

USAID gives \$12.5m loan to Omani ministry

MUSCAT (R) — Oman's ministry of education Sunday signed a \$12.5 million loan agreement for school building projects with the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the agency said.

The loan, repayable over 20 years with interest at five per cent, would finance part of Oman's 1983 programme, which calls for the construction of 67 primary and intermediate schools with between six and 27 classrooms each, it said.

Two-thirds of the new schools would replace inadequate accommodation and the rest would be closer to population concentrations than existing schools.

The agency said it expected to supplement the loan with a further \$10 million credit if the U.S. government's 1984 budget permits.

A decision is expected in a few weeks.

The two U.S. loans would together cover the cost of designing and building 48 schools.

Asian states seek greater self-reliance in energy

SINGAPORE (R) — Asian countries are mounting a determined drive to free themselves from dependence on foreign energy supplies and strengthen their defences against any future upheavals in the oil market.

Despite cash problems and continued struggle to ride out recession, many countries are pressing ahead with costly plans to become more self-reliant in energy even though some experts predict ample oil supplies at stable prices for years to come.

Asian energy officials attended a conference in Singapore this month to discuss strategies to prepare for possible future oil crises.

Underlying the various options they raised was an urgent need to develop alternative energy resources and step up conservation efforts.

Mindful of how the oil price shocks of the 1970s battered world economies, the officials reacted warily to predictions by a senior adviser to Kuwait's oil ministry, Mr. Rajai Abu Khadra, that oil prices would show little increase in real terms over the next four years.

"We all know the situation remains volatile," Philippines Energy Minister Geromimo Velasco said. "We cannot mortgage our development programme on

the mirage of apparent stability in the international oil market."

Even the region's oil-exporting countries say they need to devote more effort to oil conservation, expanding exploration and developing other forms of energy.

Both Indonesia, Asia's biggest oil exporter and its only member of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries, and Malaysia face the threat of oil shipments drying up in the 1990s when local demand is likely to catch up with production.

To preserve their oil as an export revenue earner, both countries are turning attention to their substantial reserves of gas and coal and their large water-generated energy potential to cater for domestic needs.

Indonesia has slashed subsidies on local sales of oil products to discourage excessive local consumption of its vital petroleum resources and Malaysia plans to take similar steps.

There are numerous volcanoes scattered throughout the Indonesian archipelago and it may be possible to use adjacent underground hot water or steam to produce electricity.

The oil-starved Philippines is Asia's most advanced nation in harnessing the earth's heat, and further development over the next two years may enable it to overtake the United States as the world's largest producer of geothermal energy.

To reduce its dependence on foreign energy further, the Philippines is also starting to invest heavily in coal projects and is developing novel, non-conventional fuels.

These include "alcoegas," a mixture of anhydrous alcohol and gasoline, and "coco-diesel," a blend of coconut oil and diesel.

Although the Philippines has managed to cut its reliance on foreign oil to 65 per cent of energy needs from 95 per cent a decade

ago, its oil bill still reached \$1.1 billion in the first half of 1983, 25 per cent of total imports.

"For developing countries like the Philippines, the crisis is still very real," Mr. Velasco said, stressing his country's need to meet a goal of 50 per cent self-reliance by the end of 1985.

High oil import payments have also seriously drained Thailand's foreign exchange reserves. But Thailand expects to save \$4 billion a year by 1990.

Thailand is counting on large gas resources and newly found oil, coal and hydro-power reserves to boost its self-reliance to 70 per cent of energy needs by 1990 from 40 per cent now.

Japan, which is the world's second largest oil importer after America and depends totally on foreign supplies, has slashed official forecasts for demand in 1990 to around eight million barrels a day from 10 million.

It has already cut oil imports by 25 per cent since 1979 and the government estimates that the share of petroleum in primary energy supplies will fall to 52 per cent by 1990 from 62 per cent last year.

Japan's marked shift away from oil is due to high prices and fears over the political stability of the Middle East, from which it receives about 70 per cent of its supplies.

Japan will rely on liquefied natural gas from Indonesia, coal mainly from Australia, and nuclear power to cover a greater share of its energy needs.

Oil now meets 55 per cent of South Korea's needs compared with 60 per cent last year and the country aims to reduce this to 40 per cent in the early 1990s.

South Korea and Taiwan import all their oil and both have made conservation a major plank of national energy policies while striving to establish energy alternatives.

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Peanuts

Mutt 'n' Jeff

Andy Capp

Hong Kong considers ways to halt dollar's slide

HONG KONG (R) — Hong Kong said Sunday it was looking at ways to stop the slump in the value of the colony's currency, which has fallen to an all-time low amid a crisis of confidence over the territory's future.

A government spokesman said in a statement that officials were considering proposals to boost the Hong Kong dollar which fell Saturday to 9.50 to the U.S. dollar, its second record drop in consecutive days.

The announcement came as Hong Kong governor Sir Edward Youde said following day-long talks with senior officials that he was greatly concerned about the situation.

Sir Edward, who returned Saturday from another round of Sino-British negotiations in Peking on the colony's future, urged the people of Hong Kong to "refuse to be distracted by alarmist chatter and misleading comments which have the effect, intended or otherwise, of damaging confidence."

The government's top financial official, Acting Financial Secretary Douglas Blye, had held a weekend of talks with bankers and other advisers to consider various proposals, the spokesman said.

He described the currency's fall as unwarranted.

HOROSCOPE not received

THE Daily Crossword By Frank R. Jackson

ACROSS

1 Flat-bottomed boat

5 Deserters

9 Wind indicators

14 Large rodent

15 Black

16 Prevent

17 Laws

18 Insect limb

19 Fanatics

20 "Poor wandering one"

23 Tennis term

24 With Fr.

25 Tennis term

26 Devoured

27 Apropos

28 — Khan

31 Santa Claus

37 Taj Mahal locale

38 King of the jungle

39 Roof overhang

40 Noted portrait figure

45 Snooze

46 Uncooked

47 Dutch

48 Code sound

49 Campus bligwig

51 Mimic

54 Certain relatives

58 Fetch

59 Of grandparents

60 Ancient wine pitcher

61 Belgian marble

62 Go up

63 Jungle sound

64 Fur-bearing swimmer

85 Pub drinks

86 Punching tools

DOWN

1 Quarrels

2 Hiding place

3 Performing group

4 Slinger

5 Fix a cough

6 Dwelling

7 Poisoning

8 Hindrance

9 Knave

10 Nautical term

11 Biblical mount

12 Emerald Isle

13 Criterion abbr.

21 Appraise

22 Jai — character

28 Exclamations

27 Players for pay

28 Oriental nurse

29 Bathe

30 River in Belgium

31 Play the toady

32 — Khan

33 Journey

34 Bell of thread

35 Pronoun

36 Place for a chess arena

41 Gun component

42 Wooden strip

43 Kids' ailment

44 Atlanta arena

46 Corner sifter

48 Evil one

50 Obsolete

51 Permit

52 Of a Vedic figure

53 Pitchers

54 Expletive

55 "— we got fun?"

56 GWTW

57 Ibsen

58 Male rel.

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WORLD

Marcos talks tough after riots

MANILA (R) — Philippines President Ferdinand Marcos Sunday warned opposition groups his administration had discarded its policy of "maximum tolerance" in dealing with anti-government violence and would meet force with force.

"Do not test the force and strength of the government," he declared in a television address to the nation.

He blamed communist elements for riots last week in which 10 people were killed and about 150 injured.

Mr. Marcos said some people were trying to bring communist guerrillas belonging to the outlawed New People's Army (NPA) into Manila. He vowed the military would stop them, using force if necessary.

Thirteen people were killed Saturday night in a guerrilla attack attributed by police to the NPA. They died when three grenades were tossed into a crowd of people watching a beauty contest at Davao, 800 kilometres south of Manila.

Opposition sources said a series of protest marches have been planned for this week as part of a campaign to end Mr. Marcos' rule. They hold the government responsible for the murder of opposition leader Benigno Aquino, who was assassinated on his return here after three years of self-imposed exile in the United States.

Mr. Marcos pledged to bring to justice everyone, including business executives, responsible for the riots.

Grenades and guns had been used against security forces and millions of dollars worth of property had been destroyed in Manila during the riots, he said.

One soldier and two firemen were among the 10 killed when

demonstrators clashed with security forces about 1.5 kilometres from the presidential Malacanang Palace last Wednesday.

In more demonstrations over the next two days, 52 people were arrested and charged with sedition and inciting rebellion.

Mr. Marcos said: "A large section of the Manila traffic system had been made inoperable. There was an attempt to use force against everything identified with the government."

"This must be stopped immediately. The government will not allow the streets of Manila to be used for chaotic and anarchic behaviour."

Mr. Marcos, who has hinted he might reimpose martial law, said peaceful public rallies would be allowed but the organisers must obtain a government permit. Martial law was first imposed in 1972 and lifted in 1980.

Mr. Marcos also warned the Roman Catholic Church and teachers not to "mesmerise and mislead our small schoolchildren."

University and school students have been in the forefront of the anti-government violence, while the church has been critical of the human rights record of the Marcos administration.

Mr. Marcos said: "There are reports... to the effect that teachers and even nuns in Catholic schools teach children hatred — hatred against Marcos and hatred against the government."

Referring to a proposal by the Catholic archbishop of Manila, Cardinal Jaime Sin, to establish a council of national reconciliation, Mr. Marcos said he was prepared to listen to anyone without giving up his power to decide.

"I will listen to any advice coming from anyone, whether friend or foe... but after listening I reserve to the government and presidency the power to decide what is necessary to maintain peace and order," he said.

Weinberger visits Peking

PEKING (R) — U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger arrived in Peking Sunday for talks with Chinese leaders expected to focus on regional security and possible sales of advanced technology to China.

Defence Minister Zhang Aiping officially welcomed him to Peking outside the military museum. He was later due to visit the forbidden city, former home of China's emperors, and attend a welcoming banquet hosted by Mr. Zhang.

Mr. Weinberger's visit takes place as tensions between China and the U.S. are easing, largely because of Washington's declared willingness to lift a ban on sales to Peking of sophisticated computers and other items with potential military applications.

One of the main aims of the visit is to brief Chinese officials on what equipment they may now purchase and what items are still banned to protect U.S. security.

Mr. Weinberger is also expected to discuss U.S. and Chinese policy towards the Soviet Union in the light of the Soviet downing of a South Korean airliner.

Peking, which is trying to improve relations with Moscow, reacted cautiously to the attack on Sept. 1, expressing shock and regret but abstaining in a U.N. vote condemning the Soviet Union.

Before leaving for Peking from Tokyo, Mr. Weinberger said the shooting down of the airliner with 269 people on board showed the Soviet leadership was paranoid, corrupt and barbaric.

He told reporters that the downing of the Korean Air Lines Boeing 747 on Sept. 1 had increased awareness of "the total barbarity of the Soviet leadership and their total willingness to ignore the norms of human behaviour."

Mr. Weinberger said the 269 people on board the airliner had "become the victims of the paranoia of a corrupt governmental system which occupies Japanese

territory illegally."

Japan has an outstanding claim to four islands northeast of Hokkaido which the Soviet Union has occupied since the end of World War II.

During his stay in Tokyo he had talks with Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe and Defence Agency Director Gen. Kazuo Tanikawa on Tokyo's plans to improve its defence capabilities to defend sea lanes within 1,600 kilometres of Japan. Mr. Weinberger called the goal very appropriate.

But he said Japan's plans to increase its defence spending by 6.88 per cent in the 1984 fiscal year, beginning next April, "still would not enable Japan to achieve its self defence goals as early as may be necessary."

"Achievement of this capability by Japan will provide for far greater Japanese security and will also aid global stability by complicating the task of Japan's and our potential enemy," he said.

Soviets to give salvage items to U.S., Japanese officials

OTARU, Japan (R) — Japanese and U.S. officials left Sunday for the Soviet Island of Sakhalin to collect items found by Soviet search teams looking for wreckage from the downed South Korean airliner.

The seven-member party left from this port on Japan's northern island of Hokkaido on a Japanese patrol boat which had its guns removed to avoid any misunderstanding with Soviet forces. Japanese coastguards said.

They expected the officials to return Monday or the next day. Moscow said last week it would hand over unspecified objects and documents from the airliner, shot down on Sept. 1 with 269 people

on board by a Soviet fighter, at the Sakhalin port of Novelsk.

Four of the U.S. ships also looking for wreckage from the airliner were diverted to the search from joint exercises with the Japanese navy, the biggest in five years, which started off Japan Sunday.

Another six ships and two submarines from the U.S. navy and 150 Japanese vessels are taking part in the annual exercises which are due to last until Oct. 5.

The exercises, designed to test the defence of sea lanes and vital straits around Japan, are being held some distance from the area where the airliner went down.

Conduct of the exercises has been complicated by the approach of a typhoon with winds at its centre of 180 kilometres an hour. Typhoon Forrest has already battered Japan's southern island of Okinawa, forcing cancellation of air, ferry and bus services.

The U.S. navy's newest nuclear-powered aircraft carrier, the 81,600-tonne Carl Vinson, will pass through the area of the exercises later this week on its way to the southern Japanese port of Sasebo but will not take part in them.

Protests are expected against the carrier's four-day visit by left wing Japanese who believe the ship carries nuclear weapons.

Mugabe alleges British interference

HARARE (R) — Zimbabwe Prime Minister Robert Mugabe Sunday accused Britain of interfering in Zimbabwe's internal affairs and said the British attitude had affected relations between the two countries.

Speaking to reporters on his return from a 19-day trip to Ireland, the United States and Canada, Mr. Mugabe said Britain had tried to lobby these countries to demand the release of white air force officers held in Zimbabwe.

A dispute between the two countries was provoked by the red-emption in Zimbabwe of six white air force officers, three of whom were later freed and deported to Britain, after a court had cleared them of sabotage charges.

Mr. Mugabe said he had protested to Britain's high commissioner in Zimbabwe, Martin Ewans, about what he said were Britain's attempts to manipulate and intimidate Zimbabwe each time alleged white saboteurs were held.

"This is a very undesirable development," he said.

In one of his strongest attacks on Britain, Zimbabwe's former colonial ruler, Mr. Mugabe said Zimbabwe regarded British descendants in the country as its citizens, but Britain still considered them as its charges.

He said he would not communicate with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher over the detention of the air force officers because he was not accountable to her.

Mr. Mugabe said Britain had kept quiet about human rights violations by the former rulers of Rhodesia, Zimbabwe's name before independence in 1980, but it now showed concern because whites were being detained by blacks.

Seveso convictions to be appealed

MONZA, Italy (R) — Five former managers of a chemical plant in Seveso, near Milan, have said they will appeal against their conviction on charges that their negligence led to a dioxin explosion there.

Hoffmann-Laroche, the Swiss-based chemicals multinational which owned the ICMESA factory through the Swiss company Givaudan, challenged the court's findings that the ecological disaster in 1976 could have been foreseen.

Monza Court President Cesare di Nunzio announced the verdict and jail sentences of up to five years in the small, crowded courtroom Saturday, after a five-month trial which lawyers said was the first of its kind arising out of a chemical explosion causing widespread damage.

None of the five defendants was present to hear the verdict. They are free on bail or on their own surety and will go to jail only if the sentences are upheld on appeal. Each was awarded a three-year remission of sentence, so that one of the five, who was given a 30-month, will not go to prison at all.

The plant's West German managing director, Herwig von Zwehl, and Givaudan's Swiss technical director Jorg-Anton Sambeth were sentenced to five years' jail, and plant designer Fritz Moenig and ICMESA chairman Guy Waldvogel, both Swiss, to four years.

With remission, they would serve only one or two years in jail.

They were all found guilty under an article of the Italian criminal code penalising wilful omission to avert a disaster, implying they knew the hazards of leaving potentially dangerous chemical processes unattended but neglected their duty.

The Italian engineering director, Giovanni Radice, was convicted on the lesser charge that his involuntary negligence contributed to the disaster, and sentenced to 30 months' jail.

The companies' joint statement expressed regret that the court had largely followed a prosecution assertion that the disaster had been foreseeable. "In our opinion the proceedings did not hear convincing proof to back up this thesis," it said.

Kenyan rallies relatively calm

NAIROBI (R) — Kenyan riot police intervened in campaign rallies ahead of Monday's general elections, called by President Daniel arap Moi to purge the government of what he has termed disloyal elements.

After a mostly peaceful campaign in the one-party state, rival supporters Saturday hurled stones at each other at a rally in Nairobi and riot police baton-charged crowds in at least four towns, local news reports said.

At least two people have died in election violence, but the campaign has been virtually free of tribal tensions.

Mr. Moi called the elections a year early to fill 153 seats in Kenya's single-chamber national assembly. Five seats have been allocated unopposed, and Mr. Moi himself was re-elected.

Mr. Moi, who has remained aloof from the bustle of the campaign, can name up to 12 further members of parliament after the polls.

Mongolia continues to expel Chinese residents

ULAN BATOR, Mongolia (R) — Despite China's protests, Mongolia continues systematically to expel ethnic Chinese amid signs that it plans to eject almost all of this community of nearly 7,000 people, diplomats here report.

The diplomats put the number expelled to date at more than 2,000 since the ousters began in March. They also expressed puzzlement that Moscow, with its big influence here, had not halted them at a time when it seeks better Sino-Soviet relations.

Mongolia's government branded the Chinese as work shirkers and ordered their resettlement in remote northern farming regions. It admitted ejecting the uncooperative but said the majority of those returning to China did so voluntarily.

The Chinese, mainly farmers and factory workers, settled around Ulan Bator 30 years ago when official Sino-Mongolian relations were warm.

However, the diplomats said, Mongolians often still resent them because of China's former long rule here and of late, for their success as hard-working immigrants.

Peking accused Ulan Bator of the mass expulsion and mistreatment of the immigrants.

The diplomats said that about 100 Chinese were put on a train to Peking last weekend while groups of similar size were being forced to leave by train or bus almost every week.

Mongolian Foreign Minister Mangayin Dugersuren charged publicly last month that all except two or three hundred Chinese were idlers or black marketeers, the diplomats said, calling this an apparent clear signal that almost the entire community eventually would be forced out.

Mongolia began the expulsions when there was no resident Soviet ambassador here, which foreigners said could indicate Ulan Bator did so without consulting or informing Moscow.

"This suggests the Mongolians might have wanted to show their irritation about the fact that the Russians and Chinese are talking about them behind their backs," a Western diplomat said.

One of the chief topics in the current Sino-Soviet talks on normalising relations concerns Peking's objections to the presence of Soviet troops in Mongolia.

But given Mongolia's staunch alliance with Moscow and its dependence on Soviet aid, it seemed unthinkable that the Kremlin could not have halted the expulsions had it wanted to, most diplomats said.

One added that Soviet negotiators in the talks with Peking were probably happy to cite the expulsions as evidence Mongolia was a difficult partner and to use this argument to resist calls for a reduction in Soviet troop strength in this country.

Rupert Murdoch presides over the house of The Soaring Sun

By Alexander Moxey

Reuter

LONDON — Rupert Murdoch, the Australian publisher with a talent for raising newspapers from the dead, is celebrating his most extraordinary act of resurrection.

The patient was The Sun, a British national newspaper that appeared to be boring itself to death when he bought it in 1969 for the giveaway price of £250,000 (\$375,000).

After 14 years on a diet of bare breasts, bingo, royal gossip, horse racing, and news so long as it is sensational, it has earned its own modest sobriquet: The Soaring Sun.

Accounts just published show that the paper contributed £22 million (\$33 million) to the £36 million (\$54 million) pre-tax profits of Mr. Murdoch's British group, News International, in 1982-83.

More significantly, The Sun alone now earns more than one-third of the worldwide profits of the Murdoch parent company, News Corporation.

He is the first publisher to build

a newspaper empire on three continents — Australia, America and Europe — and if the money-losing Times of London is his jewel of respectability, The Sun is now his financial bedrock.

It has been the best-seller of Britain's nine national newspapers since overtaking The Daily Mirror five years ago. It now sells 4.17 million copies a day, a figure still rising.

Its remarkable new profits were not announced to its own readers, discarded, apparently, as a tedious financial story. The Sun has no business column, let alone a business page.

What the tabloid does have is evidently what its readers, whom it addresses as "folks," want at the breakfast table or on the bus to work.

It led the rest of Fleet Street in such relentless pursuit of members of the royal family that Queen Elizabeth summoned editors to Buckingham Palace to ask them to back off.

Its other most treasured "exclusive" usually concern stars of television soap operas, British or American.

Headlines like "Diane's sex marathon", "How to make love in a heatwave", "Evil Miss X hired a hitman" and "Knickers made me slim" indicate some of its preoccupations.

Each day, most of page three is devoted to a photograph of a bare-breasted young woman, a pioneering formula that gave "page three" to the English language as a new euphemism.

Bingo, with prizes of up to £80,000 (\$120,000), is promoted among such other competitions as "have you got the biggest cucumber in Britain?"

Very patriotic

During Britain's Falkland Islands War with Argentina last year, The Sun discovered the circulatory boost that jingoism brings.

Billing itself "the paper that supports our boys", it denounced critics of Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's war policy as traitors. The Mirror replied with an edi-

Cosmonauts love garlic, wild onions

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet cosmonauts supplement their monotonous pre-packed diet with fresh fruits and vegetables including garlic and wild onions sent up in cargo spacecraft, a Soviet newspaper reported.

An article by two space scientists in the Communist Party daily Pravda said mission control first began sending fresh food to crews in 1977.

Cosmonaut Valery Ryumin, on the Salyut-6 mission in 1979, specifically ordered wild onions to the surprise of food scientists and dieticians on the ground.

Pravda said such requests were granted for psychological reasons and to provide a change from the usual six-day cycle of tinned and aluminium foil-wrapped food.

Specially-prepared fruit and vegetables are sent up to crews in cargo craft like Progress-17 which recently resupplied Alexander Alexandrov and Vladimir Lyakhov who have been aboard the orbital station Salyut-7 for nearly three months.

Pravda said there was a widespread misconception that cosmonauts are only tablets or sucked cold food and drink from tubes to avoid crumbs or droplets being released into the weightless environment aboard spacecraft.

They were actually able to heat up a variety of canned meats and other products, it said.

Catholic Church attacks S. African reform plan

JOHANNESBURG (R) — South Africa's Roman Catholic Church Sunday attacked the government's proposal for a controversial new constitution, saying the reform failed in regard to justice, truth, love and freedom.

A pastoral letter from the country's Catholic bishops, read out in every Catholic church Sunday, said it was a serious moral failure that the constitution disregarded blacks, who make up over two-thirds of South Africa's 27 million people.

"It is an affront to the people concerned and ensures that racial discrimination will continue," the message said.

About 10 per cent of all South Africans are Catholics and the message is likely to be seen as a clear signal to the whites among them to vote against the reforms in

a crucial whites-only referendum on Nov. 2.

The new constitution, a reform which would allow limited power-sharing for Indians and coloureds (people of mixed race), but exclude the black majority, has also been condemned by most liberal political leaders and the powerful Methodist Church.

The white Liberal establishment, including the main English newspapers, has been divided by the reform plan.

Those approving it say that even a flawed reform of the country's system of apartheid (racial separation) is better than no change.

Others, such as the Progressive Federal Party, say the reforms will anger blacks, enshrine racism in the constitution and further concentrate power in the hands of the ruling Nationalist Party.

Soviet handicapped allegedly sent to psychiatric hospital

MOSCOW (R) — Three Soviet handicapped people have been committed to psychiatric hospitals because they supported an unofficial group's campaign to draw attention to the lack of facilities for them, the group said.

A statement circulated by the self-styled steering group for the defence of "invalids' rights said Vasily Perushin, a Second World

War invalid, had been committed in Novosibirsk for signing a petition demanding better facilities for the handicapped.

Two other handicapped, Alexander Vorona and Vladimir Gershin, were also committed to institutions for campaigning for invalids' rights and for associating with pacifist groups, the statement said.

No need to worry

But long before making his name as the master of sex and scandal journalism, Mr. Murdoch had founded Australia's quality national daily, The Australian.

Associates also point out that Mr. Murdoch, 52, comes from the Melbourne establishment, a social order even stiffer than that of Britain, and has never evinced any urge to ingratiate himself with the British ruling classes.

They say his real driving urge, in which he is undeniably successful, is to make newspapers sell. Having done it with The Sun, his task is to rescue The Times, and no one doubts he will be ruthlessly efficient.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Councillor explains retirement bid

NEW PLYMOUTH, New Zealand (R) — Gerald Gower, 59, issued the following statement to explain why he would not be seeking re-election to the tiny Strathford Council, in New Zealand's North Island, after 12 years service: "In answer to the many queries as to why I am retiring from county involvement I can only say that when I works I works hard, when I sits I sits loose, when I thinks I falls asleep. As a councillor one must both sit and think, so I consider my usefulness in this capacity has passed."

Argentina to speed up trials

BUENOS AIRES (R) — Argentina's military government has followed up its amnesty for human rights offenders in the armed forces with legislation to speed up trials of anti-government guerrillas. A spokesman for the legislative advisory commission of the ruling military junta said the body had approved special court procedures for dealing with civilians accused of subversion. Military sources said a decree would be promulgated this weekend. "The new law will allow for prisoners to be tried and sentenced within 10 days, whereas under the old system a trial could take two or three years," one senior officer connected with drafting the law said.

British discover new contraceptive

EASTBOURNE, England (R) — British doctors have stumbled onto a new birth control method which stops sperm in their tracks as they swim towards the egg. They say tests show the new pessary, inserted into the vagina before sex, is more reliable than any barrier method, such as the sheath or the cap, and as good as some oral contraceptives. The sperm-stopping ingredient, known as a beta blocker, is present in a widely-prescribed heart drug. Doctors at London's St. Bartholomew's hospital discovered it by chance after two men taking the drug complained that their wives had not become pregnant.

Pope urges natural birth control

VATICAN CITY (R) — Pope John Paul II has urged American bishops to help Roman Catholic couples to convert from contraception to natural methods of birth control. It was the pontiff's third attack in the past three weeks on artificial birth control and other deviations from the Vatican's teaching on sexuality, and the second to be addressed to U.S. churchmen. Saturday's address, to 14 visiting U.S. bishops, was milder in tone and stressed the need to promote church-approved methods of family planning.

Lord Snowdon attacked by youths

LONDON (R) — Lord Snowdon, ex-husband of Princess Margaret, was temporarily blinded by youths who sprayed him with a mystery liquid, police said. Lord Snowdon, 53, was left with streaming eyes and a stinging face after a group of youths in a van squirted liquid at him as he headed home from London's Heathrow Airport, in his chauffeur-driven car. He said it did not appear to be a personal attack. "They were doing it to other people as well."

5 shot dead after Texas robbery

KILGORE, Texas (R) — Five people kidnapped from a restaurant during a \$2,000 robbery were found shot dead Saturday in a wooded area near the east Texas town of Kilgore, police said. The victims, three men and two women, were lying face down. Each had been killed by a bullet to the head, police said. They were seized Friday night from the restaurant where three of them worked. The other two were friends of one of them waiting for him to finish work. Police speculated that the killers entered the back door of the restaurant in a busy shopping centre shortly after it closed, took all the money there and made off with the victims.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
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PROMOTE THAT WINNER

East-West vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ 85
♥ J10952
♦ Q3
♣ AK82

WEST EAST
♠ 1043 ♠ Q
♥ A7 ♥ KQ64
♦ KJ742 ♦ A986
♣ J94 ♣ Q1053

SOUTH
♠ AKJ9762
♥ 83
♦ 105
♣ 76

The bidding:
South West North East
3 ♠ Pass Pass Pass
Opening lead: Four of ♠.

Like most facets of bridge, defense is often no more than a matter of counting. If you don't come up with enough tricks to set the contract, you have to search for those you need.

South had a perfect preemptive bid at this vulnerability. East would have liked to reopen with a double, but the fact that he was vulnerable made it too risky

a venture. Note that only a club ruff prevents East-West from making four diamonds. In addition, the defenders must negotiate this ruff quickly (either by leading a club, or by switching to a club at trick two after a spade lead).

West led his fourth-best diamond. East won the ace and shifted to the king of hearts. The fate of the contract hinged on how West chose to defend.

From West's side, it seemed that the angle suits would produce a maximum of four defensive tricks—two in each red suit. That meant that the trump suit would have to provide the setting trick. A trump promotion could be accomplished if East held any trump honor.

West overtook the king of hearts with the ace and took care to cash the king of diamonds. Next came a heart to the queen. East cooperated by continuing with another heart, and the defense had completed its task. Declarer had to ruff high to prevent an overruff, but now West could not be kept from scoring a trump trick for down one.